

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 9, 10 and 12 are amended. Support for the amendments to these claims may be found in Fig. 7A, Fig. 7B and in paragraph [0026], [0027] and [0053] of the specification, for example. No new matter is added.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that claim 1 recites action steps as part of the system. The Office Action further asserts that a claim claiming both an apparatus and the method steps of using the apparatus is indefinite. Citing Holdings v. Amazon.com, Inc., 430 F.2d 1377, 1384, 77 USPQ2d 1140, 1145 (Fed. Cir. 2005). However, claim 1 only recites features of an apparatus which perform steps or functions. Thus, Holdings v. Amazon is inapplicable to the facts of this case. Furthermore, MPEP §2173.05(g) makes clear that "[t]here is nothing inherently wrong with defining some part of an invention in functional terms." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully solicited.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shindo (JP 09-035129) in view of Griffioen (U.S. 2002/0188934), and further in view of Kimata (U.S. 5,043,561); claims 2 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shindo in view of Griffioen and Kimata, and further in view of Enta (U.S. 5,983,197); and claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shindo in view of Griffioen and Kimata, and further in view of Pugliese (U.S. 2001/0016825). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Shindo discloses that the printer prints a recovery coupon containing information pertaining to the generated error recovery information. However, Applicants respectfully submit that Shindo does not disclose, and would not have

suggested, the printed information including a unique identifier identifying an instance of the automated process in which the error was encountered, and also including a step ID, in coded or uncoded form, the step ID identifying a step in the automated process at which the error was encountered, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 10 and 12.

Shindo merely discloses that a malfunction or event code specifying the malfunction or event that occurred is included on the printout. See [Means for Solving the Problem] paragraph on p. 2 of Shindo. Thus, Shindo does not disclose, and would not have suggested, the printed information including a unique identifier identifying an instance of the automated process in which the error was encountered, and also including a step ID, in coded or uncoded form, the step ID identifying a step in the automated process at which the error was encountered, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 10 and 12. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Griffioen, Kimata, Enta and Pugliese are silent regarding this recited feature. Thus, Shindo, Griffioen, Kimata, Enta and Pugliese, individually or in combination, do not disclose, and would not have suggested, the subject matter recited in claims 1, 10 and 12.

In view of the above, Shindo, Griffioen, Kimata, Enta and Pugliese, individually or in combination, do not disclose, and would not have suggested, the subject matter recited in claims 1, 10 and 12. Claims 2-6 and 8-9 depend from claim 1; and claims 11 and 13 depend from claim 10. Thus, Shindo, Griffioen, Kimata, Enta and Pugliese, individually or in combination, do not disclose, and would not have suggested, the subject matter recited in claims 1-6 and 8-13. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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